THE BOOK OF

MALACHI

CHAPTER 1

1 The burden of the word of the LORD to Israel by the hand of Malachi.

2 “I have loved you,” saith the LORD. “Yet ye say, ‘Wherein hast Thou loved us?’ Was not Esau Jacob’s brother?” saith the LORD. “Yet I loved Jacob,

3 and I hated Esau, and laid his mountains and his heritage waste for the dragons of the wilderness.”

4 Whereas Edom saith, “We are impoverished, but we will return and rebuild the desolate places,” thus saith the LORD of Hosts: “They shall build, but I will throw down; and they shall call them the Border of Wickedness and the people against whom the LORD hath indignation forever.

5 And your eyes shall see, and ye shall say, ‘The LORD will be magnified from the border of Israel.’

6 “A son honoreth his father, and a servant his master. If then I be a father, where is Mine honor? And if I be a master, where is the fear of Me? saith the LORD of hosts unto you, O priests, who despise My name. And ye say, ‘Wherein have we despised Thy name?’

7 Ye offer polluted bread upon Mine altar; and ye say, ‘Wherein have we polluted Thee?’ In that ye say: ‘The table of the LORD is contemptible.’

8 And if ye offer blind animals for sacrifice, is that not evil? And if ye offer the lame and sick, is that not evil? Offer it now unto thy governor! Will he be pleased with thee or accept thy person?” saith the LORD of hosts.

9 “And now, I pray you, beseech God that He will be gracious unto us. This has been by your hand: Will He regard your persons?” saith the LORD of hosts.

10 “Who is there even among you who would shut the doors for nought? Neither do ye kindle fire on Mine altar for nought. I have no pleasure in you,” saith the LORD of hosts, “neither will I accept an offering from your hand.

11 For from the rising of the sun even unto the going down of the same, My name shall be great among the Gentiles. And in every place incense shall be offered unto My name, and a pure offering; for My name shall be great among the heathen,” saith the LORD of hosts.

12 “But ye have profaned it in that ye say, ‘The table of the LORD is polluted; and the fruit thereof, even His meat, is contemptible.’

13 Ye said also, ‘Behold,

what a weariness is it!' And ye have sniffed it," saith the LORD of hosts. "And ye brought that which was torn and the lame and the sick; thus ye brought an offering! Should I accept this from your hand?" saith the LORD.

14 "But cursed be the deceiver who hath in his flock a male, and voweth and sacrificeth unto the Lord a corrupt thing. For I am a great King," saith the LORD of hosts, "and My name is dreadful among the heathen.

CHAPTER 2

1 "And now, O ye priests, this commandment is for you.

2 If ye will not hear, and if ye will not lay it to heart to give glory unto My name," saith the LORD of hosts, "I will even send a curse upon you, and I will curse your blessings. Yea, I have cursed them already, because ye do not lay it to heart.

3 Behold, I will corrupt your seed and spread dung upon your faces, even the dung of your solemn feasts; and one shall take you away with it.

4 And ye shall know that I have sent this commandment unto you, that My covenant might be with Levi," saith the LORD of hosts.

5 "My covenant was with him of life and peace, and I gave them to him for the fear with which he feared Me and was afraid before My name.

6 The law of truth was in his mouth, and iniquity was not found on his lips. He walked with Me in peace and equity, and turned many away from iniquity.

7 For the priest's lips should keep knowledge, and they should seek the law at his mouth; for he is the messenger of the LORD of hosts.

8 But ye have departed from the way; ye have caused many to stumble at the law; ye have corrupted the covenant of Levi," saith the LORD of hosts.

9 "Therefore have I also made you contemptible and base before all the people, according as ye have not kept My ways but have been partial in the law."

10 Have we not all one Father? Hath not one God created us? Why do we deal treacherously every man against his brother by profaning the covenant of our fathers?

11 Judah hath dealt treacherously, and an abomination is committed in Israel and in Jerusalem; for Judah hath profaned the holiness of the LORD which he loved, and hath married the daughter of a strange god.

12 The LORD will cut off the man who doeth this -- the master and the scholar -- out of the tabernacles of Jacob, and him that offereth an offering unto the LORD of hosts.

13 And this have ye done again, covering the altar of

the LORD with tears, with weeping, and with crying out insomuch that He regardeth not the offering anymore, nor receiveth it with good will from thy hand.
14 Yet ye say, "Why?" Because the LORD hath been witness between thee and the wife of thy youth, against whom thou hast dealt treacherously; yet she is thy companion and the wife of thy covenant.
15 And did not He make one? Yet had He the residue of the spirit. And why one? That He might seek a godly seed! Therefore take heed to your spirit, and let none deal treacherously against the wife of his youth.
16 "For the LORD, the God of Israel, saith that He hateth putting away; for one covereth violence with his garment," saith the LORD of hosts. "Therefore take heed to your spirit, that ye deal not treacherously."
17 Ye have wearied the LORD with your words. Yet ye say, "Wherein have we wearied Him?" When ye say: "Every one who doeth evil is good in the sight of the LORD, and He delighteth in them," or, "Where is the God of judgment?"

CHAPTER 3

1 "Behold, I will send My messenger, and he shall prepare the way before Me. And the LORD, whom you seek, shall suddenly come to His temple, even the Messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in. Behold, He shall come," saith the LORD of hosts.
2 "But who may abide the day of His coming? And who shall stand when He appeareth? For He is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap.
3 And He shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver; and He shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the LORD an offering in righteousness.
4 Then shall the offering of Judah and of Jerusalem be pleasant unto the LORD, as in the days of old and as in former years.
5 "And I will come near to you in judgment; and I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers and against the adulterers, and against those who swear falsely, and against those who oppress the hireling in his wages, the widow and the fatherless, and those who turn aside the stranger from his right, and fear not Me," saith the LORD of hosts.
6 "For I am the LORD, I change not. Therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed.
7 "Even from the days of your fathers, ye have gone away from Mine ordinances and have not kept them. Return unto Me, and I will return unto you," saith the LORD of hosts. "But ye said,

‘In what manner shall we return?’
8 Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed Me! But ye say, ‘Wherein have we robbed Thee?’ In tithes and offerings.
9 Ye are cursed with a curse; for ye have robbed Me, even this whole nation.
10 Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in Mine house, and put Me to the proof now herewith,” saith the LORD of hosts, “if I will not open to you the windows of heaven and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.
11 And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground, neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field,” saith the LORD of hosts.
12 “And all nations shall call you blessed, for ye shall be a delightsome land,” saith the LORD of hosts.
13 “Your words have been defiant against Me,” saith the LORD. “Yet ye say, ‘What have we spoken so much against Thee?’
14 Ye have said: ‘It is vain to serve God; and what profit is it that we have kept His ordinance, and that we have walked mournfully before the LORD of hosts?
15 So now we call the proud happy; yea, they that work wickedness are set up; yea, they that tempt God are even delivered.’”
16 Then those who feared the LORD spoke often one to another, and the LORD hearkened and heard it. And a book of remembrance was written before Him for those who feared the LORD and who thought upon His name.
17 “And they shall be Mine,” saith the LORD of hosts, “in that day when I make up My jewels; and I will spare them as a man spareth his own son who serveth him.
18 Then shall ye return and discern between the righteous and the wicked, between him that serveth God and him that serveth Him not.

CHAPTER 4

1 “For behold, the day cometh that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly shall be stubble. And the day that cometh shall burn them up,” saith the LORD of hosts, “that it shall leave them neither root nor branch.
2 But unto you that fear My name shall the Sun of Righteousness arise with healing in His wings; and ye shall go forth and grow up as calves from the stall.
3 And ye shall tread down the wicked, for they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet in the day that I shall do this,” saith the LORD of hosts.
4 “Remember ye the Law of Moses, My servant, which I commanded unto him in Horeb for all Israel, with the statutes and judgments.

5 “Behold, I will send you
Elijah the prophet before the
coming of the great and
dreadful day of the LORD.
6 And he shall turn the heart
of the fathers to the children,
and the heart of the children
to their fathers, lest I come
and smite the earth with a
curse.”